(b) whether any assessment has been made with regard to the decline in agricultural research, both in quantitative and qualitative terms; and

(c) steps being taken to reverse this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Periodic assessment is made for both Institutes as well as All India Coordinated Research Projects by eminent Scientists through quin-quennial review teams (QRT), Work shops, Mid-term Review etc.

(c) Based on the recommendation of (b) above corrective measures are taken by the Council.

Declining trend of capital formation in Agriculture

4403. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment on the likely adverse effects of a dip in capital formation in agriculture over the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to reverse this declining trend of capital formation in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Gross capital formation in agriculture both at current as well as 1980-81 prices has increased after 1989-90.

(c) The strategy to increase capital formation in agriculture will include increasing the proportion of planned investment for development of infrastructure, more efficient use of resources to raise productivity and ensuring remunerative prices to farmers to induce them to go for higher investments in agriculture.

Purchase of edible oil by NDDB

4404. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision not to allow the National Dairy Development Board to purchase edible oils for the purpose of matket intervention;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the other recommendations compiled by Government with regard to edible oil;

(d) whether market intervention in edible oils will be discontinued; and

(e) if so, the reasons for abandoning market intervention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Empowered Committee on Oilseeds Policy (ECOP) has recommended modified terms and conditions for Market Intervention Operations (MIO) for FY 93-94 to limit the Government liability towards losses in MIO.

(c) and (d) ECOP directed DAC/TMO&P to obtain Government approval for the same alongwith the decisions for the future course of action for MIO from FY 94-95 onwards. A note for CCEA in this regard has been prepared and after incorporating the views of different Ministries will be placed before CCEA.

(e) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

Incidents of the landslides in the country

4405. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some incidents of landslide killing 100 persons and injuring several people in Darjeeling district of West Bengal have been reported on 88-93;